


Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 11, line 15 with the following rewritten paragraph:

 The encoder 208 of a DSP 201 typically includes a number of registers 230 for storing data that is being processed, an arithmetic and logic unit (ALU) 228 for performing logical (e.g., AND, OR, XOR) operations, as well as arithmetic (addition, multiplication, division) operations, and a parallel-connected bit shifting unit 229 for performing bit shifting and masking. The buffers 204, 205 of the encoder are operable to temporarily store and transfer audio data according to the decoded host instructions. The host 203, itself, is responsible for orchestrating and coordinating the processing of audio data, as well as for its eventual recombination with video data at a multiplexor 223. Communications between the host 203 and the DSP 201 are facilitated by a program interface 209 layer throughout the coding process.